

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. In early October there were about 12,000 troops belonging to the 118, 119, and 120 Divisions of the 40 Army in the outskirts of Canton. This army had suffered heavy casualties in Korea. By the end of November the three divisions had been transferred to Kwangsi, near the Indochina border.<sup>1</sup> This army took part in conquering Hainan Island in April 1950.
2. In late November about 3,000 infantrymen, unit unidentified, reached Canton from the north by train and were billeted in Sha Ho on the northeastern outskirts of the city. They appeared ragged and poorly equipped.
3. In mid-December the Chinese Communists were strengthening defenses along the Canton-Kowloon railway, especially near Changmut'ou (114-06, 22-53), just south of the East River. There were about 4,000 infantry troops of the 4 Field Army in the area, who were being trained by some thirty Soviet instructors. It was rumored that cavalry units were also in the area.
4. About 5,000 marines completed their training in various points in Kwangtung and will be organized into three regiments. The regimental commanders are CHANG Wen-hui (張文輝), YUAN Chao-nien (袁兆年), and HO Pang (何鵬). The regiments will garrison the coastal area between Swatow and Bias Bay. Eventually they will be used to invade Taiwan.<sup>2</sup>
5. During November a motorized regiment was sent from Ch'angch'un (125-20, 43-53) to South China. It included a battalion of coastal batteries, thirty vehicles, anti-aircraft units and 12 field guns. There were 3,000 men in the unit, including 150 Soviet advisers and technicians. The Soviets had 200 (sic) vehicles. These units were in Bias Bay, Aot'ouchiang (114-32, 22-43), P'inghai (114-53, 22-37), and Lufeng (115-38, 22-58).

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

6. During November about 3,000 tons of strategic goods arrived at Wharpoa by Soviet ships from the north. Included in the goods were signal equipment, aircraft engines and spare parts, vehicles and repair parts, and shells.
7. In early December cement, iron bars and plates, and lumber for building defenses were shipped from Canton by train to Yingo (113-21, 22-12), Shaochou (113-23, 24-50), and Jenan (113-43, 25-03). These cities form the last line of defense in Kwangtung.

8. [ ] Canton and Canton have been selected by the 4 Field Army as paratroop training centers. Soldiers will be hand-picked for training; each army group will have a paratroops division. The training site for the Canton center is at Wharpoa. Two thousand soldiers from the 15 Army Group (a rising force) South China will be detached and trained by Soviet instructors. The commanding officer is HSIAO Chung-hao (高仲豪).

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[ ] Comment. A rumor that the 40 Army had arrived in Kunming about 20 November was reported in [ ] 25X1A

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2. [ ] Comment. Other marine units to be used in the Taiwan invasion were reported in [ ] 25X1A

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3. [ ] Comment. According to other information available [ ] HSIAO Chung-hao, formerly commander of the 374 Regiment, 125 Division, 42 Army, was commander of the newly organized 4 Battalion of the Chinese Communist Airforce in September.

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